WASHINGTON.

SATURDAY December 23, 1905

CROSBY S. NOYES...... Editor

THE STAR has a regular and permanent Family Circulation much more than the combined circulation of the other Washington dailies. As a News and Advertising Medium it has no competitor.

ITIn order to avoid delays on account of personal absence, letters to THE STAR should not be addressed to any individual connected with the office, but simply to THE STAR, or to the Editorial or Business Departments, according to tenor or

Mr. Bryan in the Philippines.

Mr. Bryan is to be congratulated on his Philippine program, as announced. He declined to be the guest of the officials while in Manila. Their invitation was thoughtful and most creditable on their part, but as Mr. Bryan was not himself in office he felt that as a traveler and sightseer he would be more at ease while in town if free from the obligations of formality. He is doing some newspaper work as he goes along, and this will be the better for the course which will make him in

large measure the master of his own time. He will not talk politics while in the country. A good and wise resolution. And let us not forget that in this there is sacrifice on both sides. Mr. Bryan abstains for a fortnight from a topic which has become his intellectual meat and drink, and the Filipinos, many of them, are all but bursting with curiosity to hear from him on the subject. But Mr. Bryan's opinions about the archipelago, its present and its future state, while freely enough expressed at home, would add nothing of a helpful character to the execution of the national task if expressed there; and so while present he holds his peace. The Filipinos will hear from him later, either through the medium of his newspaper correspondence, or his deliverances on the stump after his return home and he has gotten into his

His stay in the islands will be short. A fortnight will not-tire him. Every day will bring its novelties and fresh excitements. The bloom of his engaging personality will not wear off, and the people will remember him vividly in every one of his most effective poses. The orator, easily carrying the crowd with him, the guest of honor, calm and collected in the midst of roof-lifting manifestations of admiration and approval. and the gracious handshaker, making every palm tingle with pleasure, will figure in Filipino recollections for a long time to

" Meanwhile the Hearst League-called for short the Independent League-is hard at work in the United States, and by the time Mr. Bryan returns home may have something of interest to show to a gentleman whose thoughts are of 1908 and its great and glittering prize.

Local Manufacturing Development.

The announcement that a large steel plant is to be erected soon at Glesboro Point, scuth of the city, is a welcome Christmas present to the capital. Progressive Washingtonians have always claimed that there are good reasons for the establishment in this neighborhood of certain industries, more or less related to the necessities of the government, and the decision of the Firth-Sterling Company to remove from McKeesport to Washington is a verification of this judgment. The company has large dealings with the United States and it has figured out a profit in the move which will 'doubtless cause other manufacturers who do business with the goverr.ment to consider similar changes. Washington does not aspire to be a great

manufacturing center, in the sense that Pittsburg has developed. It realizes that its chief business will always be the conduct of the affairs of the government, and it aspires to become the ideal capital, with appropriate surroundings. But at the same time it feels that its municipal health will be strengthened by having a certain infusion of industrialism, rendering a larger percentage of the population less directly dependent upon the public service for support. True, in the case of the Firth-Sterling plant, the works will be operated largely to supply certain needs of the military service, but it is altogether probable that other lines of business will develop and that the number of Washingtonians engaged in private works of all kinds will be materially increased in consequence of this

With the water power productive by the Potomac at Great Falls properly harnessed to use there is a wide opportunity for industrial development. For many years this has been the dream of the enterprising people of the capital, but complicating circumstances have prevented its accomplishment. Perhaps in the near future a demand will arise for power for factory purposes which must be met by the removal of the difficulties in the way of setting the waters of the river to work. When that time comes industrial Washington will be a thriving plant, and the prosperity of the community will be decidedly increased,

The czar would sometimes seem more dignified if the word "autocrat' were not insisted upon as an essential part of his title.

A large number of editors in Siberia are saying "I told you so."

Two consecutive days of rest are not to much for the average Christmas shopper.

Immigration and Its Abuses. Representative Wiley of New Jersey, by bill, seconds the President's motion for the calling of an international conference to consider immigration laws. It is proposed "to secure by international agreement joint action looking to the regulation of emigration of aliens to the United States, and to and from the several countries interested in alien emigration, and to provide for the examination of such aliens by American consuls or other officers when about to em-

A further provision prohibits by international agreement the overloading of emigrant ships. The bill authorizes the President to appoint five commissioners to represent this government at the conference, and appropriates \$100,000 for expenses.

The great difficulty with this subject is that politicians as a rule treat it as though it were "loaded." They are glib enough on the stump, and, in sounding generalities, descant upon the evils that will come inevitably from longer neglect to scrutinize more closely the great flood of foreigners pouring into the country. This thing is proposed, and that thing, for remedy, but still there is no remedy. When the time comes in Congress for action it is either impossible to get the proper measure out of committee, or, if that is accomplished, to get the measure then any farther. Tenderfootedness becomes epidemic, and a dead halt results.

The evil is not only of long standing, but has repeatedly been referred to by some of our ablest men in office. As far back as the true spirit of the season. It is impos-1889 General Harrison in his inaugural ad-

"Our naturalization laws should be so amended as to make the inquiry into the character and good disposition of person applying for citizenship more careful and searching. Our existing laws have been, in their administration, an unimpressive and often an unintelligible form. We accept the

man as a citizen without any knowledge of his fitness, and he assumes the duties of citizenship without any knowledge as to what they are. The privileges of American citizenship are so great and its duties so grave that we may well insist upon a good knowledge of every person applying for citizenship, and a good knowledge by him of our institutions. We should not cease to be hospitable to immigration, but we should cease to be careless as to the character of it."

with the same criticism applying, and the evil grown to greater proportions by the long neglect and the increasing attractions of our universally advertised country. As the President in his message last month pointed out, "there came to this country in the year ending June 30, 1905, a greater number of people than came here during the 169 years of our colonial life which intervened between the first landing at Jamestown and the Declaration of Inde-

That something should be done all are agreed. That whatever is done should be framed as well with regard to our record of hospitality toward worthy people seeking a new home as toward putting an end to flagrant abuses is beyond all question. But still nothing is done. The flood of talk is almost as great as the flood of immigration, and there it ends. Good luck to Mr.

McClellan and Cleveland.

Mayor McClellan will spend the holidays at Princeton. And thereby may hang a

The time approaches when the mayor must announce the appointments for his new administration. He is greatly beset on the subject, and one can approve of his choice of a quiet place for a final prayerful consideration of the slate. On the one hand is Tammany, not objecting to any change at all, but insisting that where a member of the organization now in office is displaced, another member, approved by the organization, shall succeed him. On the other hand are the reformers who supported Mr. McClellan, insisting that he divorce himself from the Tammany influence altogether, and fill the offices at his disposal, one and all, with men above the grade of the Tammany leaders. The mayor is likely to choose a middle path, but the treacing of even that will be difficult. Now, it is at this university town that

Mr. Cleveland resides, and the relations between him and Mr. McClellan are very cordial. The elder man regards the younger man with much favor, and in the mayoralty race last fall, while many of his friends went over to Mr. Ivins as a protest against Tammany, the ex-President threw his name by open letter into the scale for the Tammany candidate. It was a testimonial which, we may be sure, Mr. Mc-Clellan will not soon forget. He had a close shave, and every word of praise and comfort proved of value.

Will Mr. McClellan confer about his difficulties with Mr. Cleveland during this visit? It would be a wise step. The ex-President is not only an experienced politician in matters in general, but he has had Tammany on his hands more than once in the matter of patronage, and knows how to feed the Tiger. In 1885, and again in 1893, although Tammany had given him a grudging support at the polls, he felt obliged to do something for the organization, and did something. The problem annoyed him, and he solved it with difficulty. He must have some pointers which Mr. McClellan could utilize in his difficulty.

Not unlikely, therefore, the new slate will reflect Mr. Cleveland's judgment as well as the mayor's. But will that fact prove soothing to Tammany in any disappointments the slate may bring it?

"Leslie's" Half Century.

Fifty years ago December 15 the first number of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper was issued, the pioneer of pictorial journalism in the United States. The present publishers of Leslie's Weekly, the lineal decendants of the original Frank Leslie's have celebrated the birth of the parent periodical by issuing an attractive semi-centennial number, which not only appropriately marks the passing of the first half century but revives recollections of the original "Leslie's" and affords opportunities for discussions relative to the remarkable changes which have occurred in American

journalism during these fifty years. Charles M. Harvey contributes an especially interesting chapter on "American Journalism's Most Wonderful Half Century," in the course of which he notes the remarkable changes which have been wrought by the mechanical improvements of these fifty years and the development of a new spirit of impatience for the latest tidings from the world's news centers. Some of the figures Mr. Harvey cites are indicative of the great strides journalism has

taken in this country. He says: The 3,000 daily and weekly newspapers and the periodicals of all sorts which appeared then (1855) have grown to 24,000 now. Of this number 2,500 are dailies, 17,000 are weeklies and the remainder are triweeklies, semi-weeklies, monthlies and quarterlies. • • In the half century in which the population of the United States has tripled the newspapers and periodicals have octupled. Moreover, the increase in number has been exceeded scores of times by the expansion in circulation. New York city's newspapers and periodicals are printing more copies in the month of December, 1905, than the whole of those of the United States did in the twelve months of 1855."

It is universally conceded that there should be some better reason for the purchase of an island than the fact that its present owner does not need it and would rather have the money.

The annual tragedy of the man who hung on the Christmas tree the savings which were to pay off the mortgage only to find that a candle had set fire to it will

If Mr. Odell has anything to say about the matter, President Roosevelt will not be as popular in New York as he is in some of

A little activity on the part of the Armenians has wholesomely awakened the Sultan of Turkey to the fact that a massacre is a most undesirable incident

A number of officials now homeward bound for their vacations are wondering whether this is really to be the last time they will travel on complimentary tickets.

Holiday Greens,

Whether Christmas be white or not, whatever the weather next Monday, it will be possible for every householder to simulate the wintry aspect which is usually associated with the great day of the Christian year by trimming his rooms with wreaths and festoons. There is no more beautiful aspect of the holidays than the bringing of nature into the homes. The air becomes charged with the resinous odor of the pine and spruce and fir and hemlock. The bright crispness of the holly cheers the eye. The humblest home becomes a bower, however meager the decorations.

These festoons and wreaths are symbolic of the everlasting character of the faith founded upon the event celebrated by Christmas ceremonies. The house thus decorated must partake in its atmosphere of sible to look upon the tokens of the merrymaking brought from forest and field without realizing the humanizing, softening,

helpful influence of Christianity. Nature replaces the growths taken for nome decoration if man is in the least degree willing. Ruthless cutting, without care m. We accept the for the smaller saplings, will, of

vastate an evergreen patch. But, by taking

only the larger trees, and nurturing the smaller ones, the seasons may pass and witness annual cuttings without depletion. Happy is the home within which hang these signs of the season, and desolate in deed is the house wherein no sign of Christ mas greenness is to be seen. It is significant of the depth of the Christmas spirit that the humblest dwellings are at this time being trimmed, however trifling may be the other observances of the Yuletide.

Some of the reports from Bogota make i appear that President Reyes has acquired an ambition to introduce the methods of some of our municipal bosses into his ad-

Despite the eloquence that has prevailed Congress will insist on taking up the various topics as if there had been no elucida-

tion of them whatever. This idea of teaching West Point cadets

to cook will open up some terrific oppor tunities for hazing. Affairs have reached such a state that

t takes a very extraordinary revelation of

insurance iniquity to surprise anybody. An old-fashioned snowy Christmas can be dispensed with in a city whose streetcleaning facilities are not of the best.

Lawyer Hummell has had an emphatic esson in the ethical responsibilities of his

Some of the life insurance companies insist on being solvent at any cost to the policyholders

SHOOTING STARS.

His Observation.

"Did you ever notice," said the man who attends freak exhibitions, "that 'most nind readers are women." "No," answered the man who is in awe

women are mind readers."

"Some people," said Uncle Eben, "makes so much fuss 'bout de chillen's noise or Christmas dat it's wuss dan de noise."

of his wife. "But I have noticed that most

An Unhappy Medium.

Still of the weather men complain, And say 'tis weary wafting; It isn't warm enough for golf, Nor cold enough for skating.

The Real Triumph. "I suppose you feel better since you have delivered your speech," said the encourage

ng friend "It isn't so much to deliver a speech," replied the immature but sagacious statesman. "The real triumph consists in getting it listened to."

Cynical.

"Curious idea, this transmigration of souls," said the man who reads profound things superficially.

"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, "If I thought some human beings I know could possibly be transfigured into animals 1 shouldn't be nearly as fond of pets as I

A Hopeless Case.

Bill Jones, he is a reg'lar freak: Clean through the country you might seek And never find in all your days A feller with sech curious ways. You tell him how this country's bound Fur ruin, 'cause finance ain't sound, Likewise deficient in the law; Bill simply laughs an' says "Oh.

He ain't afeard o' germs an' things; He says the daily sunshine brings Its remedy for every woe Until it comes your time to go. I ain't like that, my stars, I thank! How ken you argue with a crank That lets you stan' aroun' an' jaw, An' simply laughs an' says "Oh, pshaw."

The Holiday Feeling.

From the Philadelphia Ledger. A wise Chinaman, who occupied an important official position in this country several years ago, when asked what custom, habit, characteristic or social phenomenon of the western civilization and world excited his greatest wonder, said that the Christmas holiday season impressed him most deeply. He had noticed among his many acquaintances, consisting of all manner of people, that at the holiday season even the curmudgeons—there were cur-mudgeons in America, though he politely declared that there were few to the square mile—even the stingy, close, selfish people, who ordinarily gave themselves slight concern about the happiness or comfort of others, began, as Christmas approached, to devise schemes to make other people happy. The observation is a just one. The influence of the Christmas feeling searches out the most remote nooks and crannies of hu-man nature in our national life and exercises a magic power of cheerfulness, of generosity, of brightness, charity, love and unselfishness. The observance of the Christ-mas holiday is almost universal among all kinds and conditions of men, and the ideas of amity, good feeling, cheeriness and happiness, and especially the ideas which give rise to plans for the happiness of others, permeate the very air so thoroughly that it is impossible to escape the spirit which animates the whole population.

The Noise Nuisance. From the New York World. Complaints taken up by a woman living on Riverside Drive nine days ago have final-ly enlisted government force to stop the all-night whistling of tugboats on the North river. It is only a few months since pro-tests by residents in the outer metropolitan districts stopped the unnecessary night sig-naling of engineers on the New York, New Haven and Hartford railway. These two victories are among the forerunners of what should be soon a general triumph over the steam whistle. That triumph in turn should be part of a universal crusade against un-necessary noise. Bells and whistles for facnecessary noise. Bells and whistles for factories have been out of date ever since multiplication and cheapness brought clocks to every household and watches to all men's pockets. Yet from 3,000 factories in noisy New York as many whistles still rend the air and torture the ear with their daily tootings. Detroit, Cleveland, Atlanta and other American cliffs have suppressed the tooting nuisance. It all there is no vice in New York so thoroughly ripe for squads and crus-York so thoroughly ripe for squads and cru sades as that of noise production.

Each Developed His Talent.

Hetty Green and Mark Twain have each celebrated a seventieth birthday. Mark has a lot of friends and Hetty has a lot of

Wouldn't It?

From the New York Herald. A St. Louis man wants a divorce because his wife, a Chicago girl, refuses to live in Missouri's chief city. Wouldn't this justify the wife in filing a cross suit on the ground of "cruel and unusual punishment"?

Will It? From the Philadelphia Inquirer Washington forecasts indicate that Congress, on reassembling, will give an exhibition of frenzied statesmanship.

Such Impertinence. From the Duluth News-Tribune.

A northwestern congressman has received notice from the Postmaster General that the Post Office Department proposes to displace incompetent and unsatisfactory postmasters, regardless of the wishes of congressmen. Now, what do you think of that?

They Are There. From the Chicago Record-Herald.



THE EVENING STAR, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1905-PART 1.

McClure's Magazine **New Number Out** Today

If the January number of McClure's Magazine had nothing in it but Lincoln Steffens' remarkable story of the Mystery of Mark Fagan, Mayor of Jersey City, it would be worth the dollar that is charged for an entire year's subscription. But in this number are also "Roosevelt as an Outdoor Man," by Henry Beach Needham, author of "The College Athlete," the first of Steward Edward White's "Arizona Nights," an explanation of the part the private car plays in railroad rate discrimination, and five other good stories. It will brighten your Christmas days to take home a copy of this number to read. All news stands, 10c., \$1 a year

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